

Marconi

Bris. City

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3. PAUL DEGNEY
4. JOHN RUSSELL
5. IVO PRSKALO
7. GARY BYRNE
8. ROBERTO VIERI
9. JIM ROONEY (Capt)
10. ALBERTO MARIANI
11. PETER SHARNE
14. MARK JANKOVICS
12. RICHIE WILLIAMS
13. STUART SELVAGE
20. JIM FRASER

1. KIM WISHART
2. IAN RATHMELL (Capt)
3. BRIAN KIBBEY
4. PETER TOKESI
5. STEVE PERRY
6. LARRY GAFFNEY
7. WILLIE CONNOR
8. FRANK PIMBLETT
9. ALAN MARLEY
11. KEVIN CALDWELL
10. ROBERTO ECHEVERRIA
13. JOHN COYNE
15. EUSEBIO IBANEZ
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COACH: DENIS FORD

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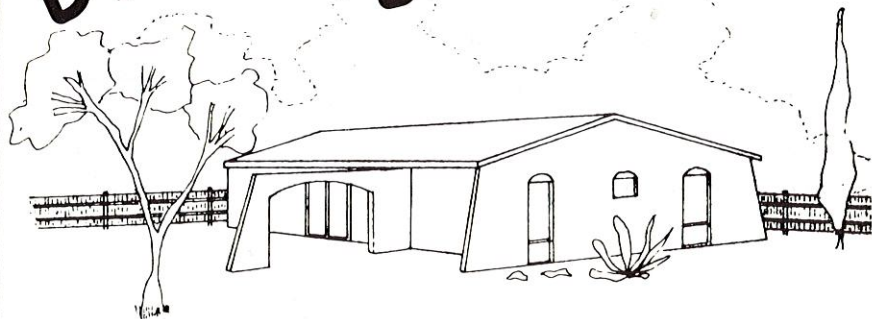
VOL. 2 - 30c

TEAM PHOTO SOUVENIR

MARCONI vs BRISBANE CITY
 SUNDAY, 26th MARCH, 1978 - MARCONI OVAL - KICK-OFF 3.00 P.M.

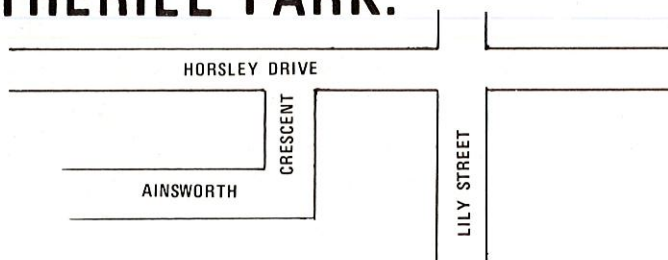
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MY VIEW

by RALE RASIC.

I want to ask a favour from Marconi fans today.

Would you please give our players every encouragement, particularly in these early matches when playing conditions can sap the strength of even the toughest of them?

In our first home game against Fitzroy United, it was difficult, at times, to breathe comfortably - even sitting on the bench. How much worse must it have been for the players running around in extreme heat and humidity.

I blame the heat for a few mistakes made by the Marconi players. There were times during the match when nothing seemed to be happening. Perhaps the players were just getting their breath back.

At periods like that, spectators tend to criticise. I suppose that's understandable. They pay to see action all the time. But they should remember that players are only human - and cannot turn on exciting football for every minute of every match.

Some Marconi supporters summed up the match by saying Fitzroy were bad. I don't agree. If Fitzroy didn't achieve much, Marconi deserved credit for making their opponents look bad.

In my opinion, Fitzroy United are one of the most dangerous teams in the Philips Soccer League. For that reason, I was thrilled when Marconi beat them 4 - 0, though disappointed that some of our fans did not see sufficient merit in the win.

I reckon Marconi would have scored five or six goals if the crowd had cheered on the team during the quiet periods in play.

So you see how important you, the fans, are to the success of your team.

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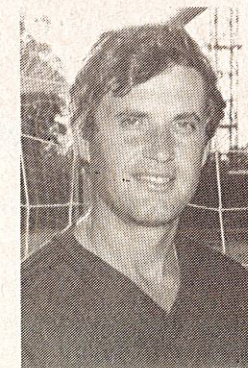
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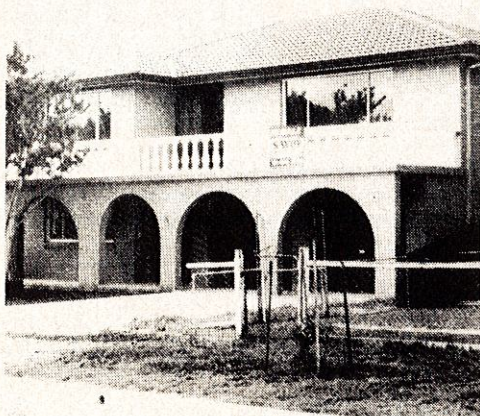
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A Word or Two from the TEAM CAPTAIN

by JIMMY ROONEY.



1972 Jimmy & Pele —
Australia v. Santos
2 all

Marconi should win something this year. I feel it in my Scottish bones !

Call me biased if you like, but I've been playing Soccer for many years and I get the feeling in this 1978 Marconi team that success is on the way.

I've been asked if this is the best side I've played in. That's hard to answer. At Apia, we had a great team. The difference, there, however, was that Apia fielded quite a number of players getting towards the end of their playing careers. At Marconi, we have basically a young line-up.

This means, we just have to get better year after year.

Some of the young men in today's Marconi first grade squad are destined to become big names in the code in the next few years.....the best in Australia.

This year, Peter Sharne and Gary Byrne are playing better than ever. Bertie Mariani, Mark Jankovics and Paul Degney - not to mention John Russell - are similarly in fine form.

Among the older players, too, there is a great feeling of optimism about this season. Roberto Vieri has settled in exceptionally well. Opinions about Roberto's value may vary, but if you want my opinion, he is one of the finest players I have ever played alongside.

I used to have a happy on-field partnership with Jimmy Mackay. Well, playing with Vieri is, to me, like playing with Mackay. And that's quite a compliment.

Let's forget about personalities and look at the Soccer set-up here in general.

Team spirit is sky high. When Marconi take the field, we have the feeling that every player is working for every other player. That means no star performers.....or maybe ALL star performers.

There is a tremendous professional atmosphere about this Marconi team. When we travel to away games, it's like travelling with a top European club. We get the feeling we're important travellers - first class Soccer citizens.

Yes, Marconi has plenty going for it this year. On behalf of the players, I can assure our loyal supporters we'll be flat out in every match to bring honours to a great Marconi Soccer Club.

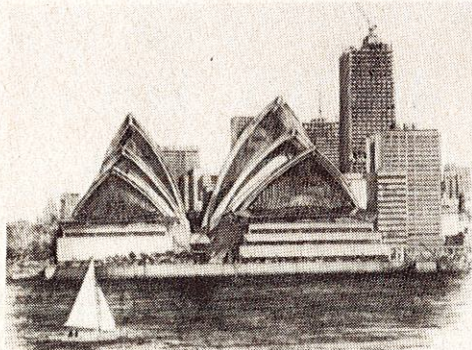
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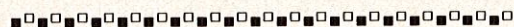
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CLUB NEWS from MARCONI

Ray Richards is back in full training and eager to win back his place in the team.

Ray has not been able to train regularly during the past few weeks because of the pressure of business. He opened a new sports shop at Carlingford and that involved him in a lot of work round the clock.

By the way, did you see Ray on Channel Seven's "Sports Action" last Sunday? He always comes over well on TV interviews.

Two of our "veteran" players are working together, on the field and off. Roberto Vieri and Ivo Prskalo are kept busy in the Marconi licensed club when they're not keeping opposing teams busy in matches.

Thanks to Breda Building Company and Taurina Mineral Water for buying a block of 20 seats in Marconi's new grand stand. The season tickets have been given to our players so their wives can watch matches in comfort. The big men in those companies are, of course, well known Marconi supporters, Aldo Breda and Carlo Zaccariotto. They need no introduction.

How's this for enthusiasm? David Polzot, a member of Marconi's first grade squad, broke his nose in the curtain raiser before the PSL game against Fitzroy United. At 5 p.m. on the day after the match, David had his nose set in hospital. At 6 p.m. he was at the ground for training.

With that spirit in the team, it's no wonder Marconi are fancied to do big things in Soccer this year.

Marconi fans will soon have their very own club song. Finishing touches are now being applied. Let's hope it goes to the top of the charts!

Another member of the Vieri family is on the way. It won't happen for some months yet, but Roberto Vieri's wife is expecting a boy or girl to keep young Christian Vieri company.

Congratulations to Newcastle KB United and Canberra City on the wonderful start they've made to the 1978 season.

Promotion in both cities has been magnificent, resulting in large crowds at home games at the International Sports Centre and Bruce Stadium.

One of the anomalies of the PSL is the way big cities, Sydney and Melbourne, get quite ordinary match attendances while smaller Soccer centres are enjoying a boom.

There must be a reason.

Marconi and Sydney Olympic have been criticised for charging too much for admission to matches. Marconi's Rale Rasic, however, feels the entrance prices are NOT high.

Asked for a comment on this, Rasic said: "Soccer, in many countries of the world, represents the cheapest entertainment imaginable. It has been sold too cheaply for too long.

"When a club invests large sums of money and works hard to improve spectator facilities, it is reasonable to try and recover some of the cash through the turnstiles. However, if a club does nothing for its spectators, that's an entirely different story".

No Fun for Footscray in Football Festival

Marconi's magnificent 2 - 0 win against Footscray at Junction Oval, St. Kilda, was the high spot of the so-called Festival of Football last weekend.

The host club, Fitzroy (Australian Rules) staged a most ambitious promotion, with three codes of football - Rules, Soccer and Rugby League - all played on the same ground on the one day.

More about the "festival" in a minute.

First, let's look at the Soccer, and Marconi's third successive victory in the 1978 Philips League.

Marconi have now collected six points to take a clear lead in the competition.

Perhaps even more significant, they have not conceded one goal in 270 minutes of football. At the same time, Marconi have scored nine times.

Manager-coach Rale Rasic said: "The fact that we are giving away no goals - and scoring ourselves - proves that there is ability in every department of the side."

Rasic was worried before the game when he realised the St. Kilda curator had not marked out the Soccer pitch correctly.

It was about 15 yards shorter than it should have been and was also narrow.

Rale likes his team to perform on a large ground - to give the free-running Peter Sharne and Paul Degney plenty of space.

Against this, however, Footscray also have good runners in Joe Palinkas and Mendo Ristovski - so that evened things up.

The small ground and a strong wind, plus a botch-up in travel arrangements, did nothing to halt Marconi's great run of successes.

Footscray, by the way, are no easy touch. They'll be one of the best teams in the PSL when they get players back from injury and when their new men are settled in.

Now, what about the "Festival of Football?"

Fitzroy Australian Rules club must be congratulated on having the courage to sponsor such an ambitious promotion.

The crowds did not attend and Fitzroy will lose money on the day.

Yet it would have been so much better if the Melbourne media had given the promoters a fair go.

Publicity for the three-code festival was almost non-existent in Melbourne papers. What did appear was mostly critical.

Rules followers, and that includes most media big shots in Victoria, have a ridiculous hatred of Rugby League: they also loathe Soccer.

Is that why last weekend's promotion was treated so shabbily in the Press?

It is a distressing business all round.

People in Australia who criticise South Africa for apartheid in sport, might take a look at their own affairs.

There is a real danger of apartheid in Australian sport.....with the various codes of football outlawing each other.

And that is just plain crazy.

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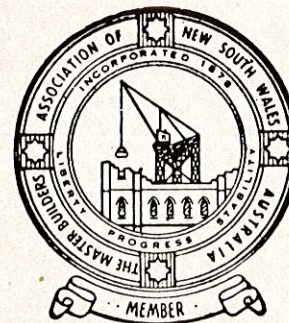
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a cura di M. PAGNIN.

MAHER NON SUBISCE GOL DA 270'

Alan Maher, 25 presenze nella nazionale australiana è ormai da quattro anni il portiere titolare del Marconi.

Maher è nato a Westmead ventisette anni fa, precisamente il 21 luglio. Sposato con due figli il biondo difensore azzurro ha iniziato a giocare all'età di 17 anni con il North Rocks. Dopo aver vagabondato tra varie società: Wests, Granville e Sutherland è finalmente approdato al Marconi e con la società azzurra è riuscito a raggiungere il massimo traguardo: quello della nazionale.

Maher abita con la moglie Susan e i figli Martina (3 anni) e Adrian (18 mesi) a Wentworthville. Quando non lavora o non si allena Alan passa la maggior parte del suo tempo libero con la famiglia. Giocare con i bambini, ha detto Maher, è uno dei miei hobby preferiti. Un pò del mio tempo libero lo dedico anche al nuoto e alla musica. Ascoltare un buon pezzo di musica moderna mi aiuta a riflettere e mi rilassa la tensione accumulata durante le partite e gli allenamenti, ha aggiunto Maher.

Negli ultimi due campionati Maher ha costantemente migliorato la sua uscita tra i pali che era stata sempre il suo tallone d'Achille. In questo primo scorcio di campionato Maher non ha ancora incassato un gol e contro il Brisbane City avrà la possibilità di aggiungere preziosi minuti ai 270' attuali che rappresentano al momento un record.

Abbiamo parlato con Maher alcuni giorni orsono e ne è scaturita una simpatica conversazione che riportiamo integralmente.

D. — Quale portiere ammiri di più?

R.— *Qui in Australia Jim Fraser che è anche il mio attuale allenatore. Tra quelli del passato il sovietico Jascin. Quello che comunque ammiro di più è il tedesco Sepp Majer.*

D. — Quali sono le squadre favorite ai Campionati Mondiali in Argentina?

R. — *Vedo di nuovo la Germania Occidentale seguita dall'Olanda. L'Italia supererà il primo turno, ma non ha le carte in regola per vincere il titolo.*

D.— Cosa pensi di Rasic e delle possibilità del Marconi di vincere il campionato?

R. — *Rasic non lo scopro io. Il suo merito principale è di fare tutto professionalmente e di saper alzare il morale dei giocatori nei momenti cruciali. E' troppo presto per pronunciarsi, ma da come siamo partiti direi che siamo senz'altro la squadra da battere.*

D. — Come giudichi il collega Fabrianesi sotto il profilo tecnico e umano?

R. — *Tecnicamente è più preparato di me. Forse manca di esperienza ed è leggermente inferiore a me nello scatto di reni. Sul piano umano è un amico e lo ammiro per la costanza che dimostra nel fare la riserva. Ho provato anch'io a sedermi in panchina e so quanto si soffre. Se mi farò male o la mia forma scadrà Fabio sarà pronto a sostituirmi senza alcun problema.*

D. — *Un'ultima domanda Alan. Cosa pensi dei tifosi?*

R. — Sono troppo calmi e sempre insoddisfatti. Dovrebbero incitarci e applaudirci di più. Inoltre non sono mai contenti. Contro il Fitzroy eravamo in vantaggio di quattro reti e ho sentito qualcuno che non era contento. Termina così la chiaccherata con Maher. Tifosi! siete avvertiti. I giocatori hanno bisogno del vostro incitamento.

Tra le tante cose che il Marconi può permettersi c'è quella di avere oltre a Maher un portiere di lusso, un portiere che molte squadre della Philips League vorrebbero avere: Fabio Fabrianesi.

Fabio è nato l'8 novembre 1952 a Matelica in provincia di Macerata (Marche). Nel 1956 il padre decise di trasferirsi in Australia con tutta la famiglia.

All'età di 10 anni Fabio iniziò a tirar calci al suo primo pallone nelle giovanili del Port Kembla. L'allenatore lo faceva giocare all'ala destra nonostante le insistenze di Fabio che voleva a tutti i costi giocare in porta.

Fabio aveva una naturale attitudine per il ruolo di portiere, quasi una vocazione. Del resto non poteva essere diversamente avendo preso dal padre Armando che in gioventù fu un discreto portiere giocando anche in serie C.

Il destino di Fabio comunque era quello di fare il portiere e a 16 anni un bel giorno il suo collega tra i pali si infortunò e Fabio ne prese il posto coronando il suo sogno. Da quel giorno non ha più lasciato i pali e dopo aver giocato nel South Coast e nell'E.P.T. venne per lui il giorno di far ritorno in Italia per adempiere al dovere del servizio militare. Fabio fu mandato nella caserma atleti di Cecchignola. Durante il periodo italiano Fabio giocò alcune partite con la Tevere Roma, con la Sangiovese e con la Triestina.





Al suo ritorno in Australia Fabio coronò un altro suo sogno, inseguito per sei lunghi anni, giocare nel Marconi. La società azzurra non se lo lasciò scappare e dopo averlo prestato al Wollongong se lo riprese definitivamente affidandogli il posto di riserva di Maher.

Fabrianesi è sposato e la moglie Ornella circa sette settimane fa gli ha fatto il regalo di una bella bambina al quale è stato dato il nome di Amanda.

Fabio ammira Dino Zoff e Maher, ama la musica moderna e lo sport in generale. Con lui abbiamo avuto una piacevole conversazione, una conversazione che è risultata alla fine molto interessante.

“Al Marconi mi trovo divinamente. Per nessuna ragione al mondo vorrei lasciare la mia nuova società, ha detto Fabio. Adesso per quattro-cinque partite giocherò con l’Inter Monaro in sostituzione del portiere titolare che si è infortunato, ma poi riprenderò il mio posto in panchina come riserva di Maher. Sono molto amico di Maher che ammiro. Alan è attualmente più forte di me e le sue prestazioni sono sempre eccellenti, ha continuato Fabrianesi. A me basta far parte della rosa e aspettare con pazienza il mio momento. La squadra quest’anno si è rinforzata con l’arrivo di Vieri e di Jankovic. L’ex bolognese è il nostro uomo faro e Sharne e lo stesso Jankovics ormai lo capiscono a memoria. Rasic ha fatto un buon lavoro sia sul piano atletico sia su quello psicologico e per questo credo che siamo senz’altro la squadra da battere, ha concluso Fabrianesi”.

Questo è Fabio. Un ragazzo sincero, aperto, che si accontenta di soffrire ogni domenica in panchina rinunciando per amore dei colori azzurri di essere uno dei protagonisti del campionato. Fabio ha chiaramente fatto capire che il Marconi è la sua nuova famiglia e per questo gli auguriamo che prima o poi venga la sua occasione e quando verrà potrete star certi che lui sarà pronto.



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Meet Brisbane City

Marconi welcome today's visitors, Brisbane City, a team which, like us, has enthusiastic support from the Italian community as well as from Australian supporters.

In the inaugural year of the Philips Soccer League, Brisbane City performed capably without really challenging the championship-chasers.

In the Philips Cup, however, Brisbane City gained spectacular success, eliminating Brisbane Lions, Western Suburbs, West Adelaide and, in the final, Marconi.

That Cup Final was settled on penalty kicks, so we at Marconi have a score to settle with the Queenslanders today.

Brisbane City is coached by Queensland State coach, Denis Ford, who succeeded former Marconi man, Luciano Nesti, a few weeks ago.

If you want to know about today's visitors, here are some brief notes on the Brisbane City players:—

(1) **KIM WISHART** - goalkeeper. Kim has come into the team to replace Oswaldo Borzi, one of the outstanding goalies in the PSL. Borzi is now in Argentina. Wishart is tall and strong and has represented Queensland several times. Age 21.

(2) **IAN RATHMELL** - defender. Captain of the team. At 29, he is one of Queensland's most experienced footballers. Rathmell has spent six years with Brisbane City. Dependable defender.

(3) **JOHN LAVALLE** - defender. Age 26. Arrived in Australia two years ago after playing in South African Soccer.

(4) **PETER TOKESI** - stopper. Age 22. Scored equalising goal against Marconi in last year's Philips Cup Final. Blond and a busy worker, Tokesi reminds some people of Manfred Schaefer.

(12) **BRIAN KIBBEY** - full back. English-born, age 28, Kibbey has been with the club for the past five years.

(8) **FRANK PIMBLETT** - midfielder. A particularly skilful creator. Came to Brisbane after being on the books of English club, Aston Villa. Age 21.

(14) **ROBERTO ECHEVERRIA** - midfielder. Argentine-born, Roberto is well known to Sydney fans, having moved to Brisbane after playing for St. George BSC. Exceptionally skilled as a ball artist.

(6) **LARRY GAFFNEY** - midfielder. Also well known to Sydney spectators after playing in NSW for the now defunct Wollongong City. Gaffney is a hard-working link man. Age 22.

(7) **WILLIE CONNOR** - winger. Willie is very small but makes up for his lack of inches with skill. Fast and tricky on the ball, his dribbling prowess is much appreciated by Soccer fans wherever he plays. Age 23.

(11) **KEVIN CALDWELL** - forward. Two years ago, Caldwell was "Player of the Year" in the Rothmans Award, indicating his importance to the team. A 24 year old local player, he is a fast and powerful striker.

(13) **JOHN COYNE** - striker. English-born Coyne is one of many UK players to have tried his luck in the North American Soccer League. Age 25.

(5) **STEVE PERRY** - full back. Another small, but valuable, player. Perry cost about \$6,000 this year when City signed him from Western Suburbs. In Sydney Soccer, Perry was the model of consistency and was on the fringe of Australia's World Cup side. Age 23.

(9) **ALAN MARLEY** - forward. Age 27, Marley was a member of New Zealand's World Cup squad before moving to Australia. Never stops running. Transferred from St. George South (Q'land) to Brisbane City.

cont. next page.

() **EUSEBIO IBANEZ** - striker. Arrived in Australia only a fortnight ago from Argentine Soccer. Has yet to show his form. Age 26.

(20) **ROBERT BARLOW** - goalkeeper. Local-born, this 26 year old is second choice goalie for the team. Joined Brisbane City from North Brisbane club.

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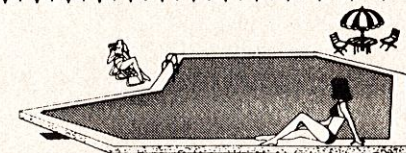
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Marconi v Fitzroy United – an outside opinion.

by DAVID JACK of the Sydney Sun.



My visits to Marconi are few and far between - but always enjoyable. Not that I deliberately leave this fine team off my visiting list. It's just that the thought of driving some 90 minutes there and another 90 minutes home again deters me.

Friend Rale Rasic says I should live nearer the centre of Sydney. Somewhere like Fairfield, maybe?

Seriously, though, it was a pleasure to attend the Marconi v Fitzroy United match at Bossley Park; in particular to take a look at the new grand stand. Marconi must be congratulated on putting up a stand which sets a standard for almost every NSW club to follow.

And what of the match itself? I thought Marconi won easily without having to play really well. In other words, Marconi did enough to make sure of the points and that's all anyone can ask of them.

The heat was a killer - anything but football weather. Perhaps that's why, despite their fine win, Marconi's players rarely seemed to excite the 5,000-odd crowd.

Goals, it seemed, were always going to come. The first two came from free-kick situations, indicating that the players had done their "dead ball" homework diligently at training sessions.

Goals number three and four were caused by Fitzroy defensive lapses. Perhaps Marconi were not given enough credit for inspiring those defensive errors.

All in all, it was a professional performance from a team which must surely challenge for honours this year.

I'm looking forward to my next visit to Marconi but it would help considerably if the club would move the ground nearer to the centre of Sydney.

Somewhere like the Ocean Beach at Manly, maybe?



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AGENT FOR REVLO

LAST WEEKEND'S RESULTS AND TABLE

PHILIPS LEAGUE

Marconi 2 (Sharne own goal, Mariani) b Footscray 0
at Junction Oval, Melbourne Crowd: 4200
Sydney Olympic 1 (Senkalski) b West Adelaide 0
Crowd: 5329
Brisbane City 2 (Echeverria, Marley) b Adelaide City 1
Crowd: 5000
Sth. Melbourne 3 (ollerton 2, Hartzemanouel) b
Newcastle 0 Crowd: 6000
Eastern Suburbs v Fitzroy, St. George v Canberra City
at Barton Park, Sydney and Western Suburbs v Brisbane
Lions at Englefield Stadium, Sydney washed out.

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Marconi	3	0	0	9	0	6
S. Melb	2	1	0	6	1	5
Bris. C	2	0	1	5	2	4
xWests	1	1	0	2	1	3
Olympic	1	1	1	2	2	3
xSt. Geo	1	0	1	4	3	2
xEast	1	0	1	5	4	2
xCanb	1	0	2	0	1	2
xBris L	1	0	1	3	4	2
xFitzroy	1	0	1	1	4	2
Footscray	1	0	2	1	5	2
Adel C	0	1	2	1	3	1
W. Adel	0	1	2	2	6	1
N'Castle	0	1	2	2	8	1

x one deferred match

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BETTING ODDS FOR PHILIPS LEAGUE

2/1	Marconi
6/1	St. George BSC / E.S. Hakoah / South Melbourne
8/1	Western Suburbs
10/1	Fitzroy United
20/1	Sydney Olympic / Brisbane City
50/1	Newcastle KB United / West Adelaide / Adelaide City / Brisbane Lions
100/1	Canberra City

NEXT MATCH

Marconi

VS.

Adelaide City

SUNDAY, 2nd APRIL, 1978

k.o. 3.00 p.m.

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